

Message Text

SECRET

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 IO-10 /083 W

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R 151820Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1935

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T COPENHAGEN 3700

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, DA, US

SUBJ: DANISH REACTION TO NATO MINISTERIAL

REF: SECTO 24047

1. MFA DEPUTY POLITICAL DIRECTOR BIERRING GAVE CHARGE
BRIEF RUNDOWN OF NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING. HE SAID THAT
FONMIN K. B. ANDERSEN CHARACTERIZED THIS AS THE "BEST
MEETING HE HAD BEEN TO" AND HAD COMMENTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN
AN EXCELLENT DIALOGUE AND DISCUSSION AMONG THE MINISTERS.
BIERRING STRESSED THAT ANDERSEN'S COMMENT (PARA 32 OF
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SECTO 24047) WAS "FROM THE HEART". ANDERSEN FELT

STRONGLY THAT WESTERN DEFENSES SHOULD NOT BE WEAKENED AND THAT NOT TOO MUCH SHOULD BE EXPECTED IN THE SHORT RUN FROM THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT.

2. ANDERSEN HAD ALSO WISHED TO UNDERLINE THE DANGER IN DECLARATIONS IN COMMUNIQUEES FOLLOWING BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH EASTERN POWEERS. DANISH POSITION WAS THAT SUCH TYPES OF STATEMENTS, USUALLY INITIATED BY EAST BLOC, TENDED TO WEAKEN THE CAREFUL WORDING OF THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT.

3 BIERRING WENT ON TO SAY THAT ANDERSEN HAD STRESSED THAT THE ALLIANCE WAS STRONGER NOW THAN IT HAD EVER BEEN BECAUSE ALL POWERS REPRESENTED DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS. BIERRING ADMITTED THAT THIS STATEMENT HAD BEEN EXAGGERATED BY THE DANISH PRESS WHICH HAD LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT ANDERSEN HAD ONLY SPOKEN ABOUT THE "PURGING OF FASCIST REGIMES WITHIN NATO" AND HAD OVERLOOKED THE FACT THAT HE HAD ALSO POINTED OUT THE DANGERS OF THE EXTREME LEFT. BIERRING ADDED THAT ANDERSEN HAD BEEN PLANNING TO ADD PRIVATELY TO SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES THAT THE FAR LEFT WAS WEAKER IN COUNTRIES WHERE DEMOCRATIC REGIMES PAID MORE ATTENTION TO SOCIAL JUSTICE.

4. AS FAR AS ANGOLA WAS CONCERNED, BIERRING REMARKED THAT THE DISCUSSION AT NATO WAS LESS EXTENSIVE THAN SUGGESTED BY THE PRESS. K.B. ANDERSEN'S COMMENTS ON THE SUBJECT WERE PART OF A GENERAL MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION BASED ON STATEMENTS BY THE SECRETARY. AGAIN BIERRING NOTED THAT SOME OF THE DANISH PRESS REPORTING HAD NOT BEEN ENTIRELY ACCURATE AND MAY HAVE GIVEN THE IMPRESSION THAT ANDERSEN'S STATEMENT WAS DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF OTHER MINISTERS. IN EFFECT, WHAT ANDERSEN HAD BEEN SAYING WAS THAT ANGOLA DID NOT WANT TO BECOME ANYBODY'S PUPPET AND THAT PERHAPS NETO OF MPLA, WHILE A MARXIST, WAS NOT NECESSARILY UNDER COMPLETE SOVIET DOMINATION. BIERRING SAID ANDERSEN HAD MADE IT CLEAR NOT ONLY IN THE RESTRICTED SESSIONS BUT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH COLLEAGUES IN THE HALLS THAT DANISH AID TO ANGOLA HAD ENDED NOV. 11 AND THAT DENMARK DID NOT PLAN TO RECOGNIZE ANY GOVERNMENT IN ANGOLA UNTIL THE SITUATION HAD CLARIFIED.

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